important facts burns are treated with the recitation of the "Our Father" (LORD'S PRAYER). When the phrase "as it is on earth" is reached, they point with their finger toward the ground as if to show the disease in which direction to leave. Many superstitious actions have to be performed on certain religious holidays; for instance, the unmarried girls take after the midnight mass on Christmas Eve a mouthful of holy water home from the church and wash their faces with it before going to bed. It is believed that the persons who appear in their dreams to wipe the water from their faces will be their future husbands.

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Most of the countless superstitions of the Magyar peasants have their international equivalents, especially those which can be traced back to Biblical sources (the ill fate connected with Friday or the number 13) and also others of the following varieties:

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Those connected with iron and its production, such as horseshoes bringing luck, and magic actions with iron tools which avert mishaps and natural disasters and which can be used against the evil influences of others (rontás 'bewitching') and for healing of animals.

Parts of the human body or anything connected with it represented, to the primitive mind, the entire human being, hence the great ease

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of superstitions based on the belief that a person's hair, nails, saliva, or even his shadow, his image or his name spoken aloud could be acted upon for good or evil. In the Baranya, for instance, unrequited lovers gather the dirt bearing the footprint of their loved ones and carry it in their handkerchiefs. There is also the belief that the burning of the hair or nails will cause the destruction of the owner of these bodily parts. 789 826

Many superstitions are rooted in the primitive belief in the magic power of the spoken word. Accordingly, incantations--some of them traceably pre-literary--have developed for blessing or cursing others. Spells used for healing either invoke benevolent spirits or chase away the evil ones. 789

Certain types of witchcraft have to be performed naked or with the clothing worn inside out in order to purify the man and to ward off the influence of disturbing spirits inhabiting the clothes. Many of the charms to be performed naked foretell one's marriage partner and one's happiness in married life; others heal or combat natural disasters, such as fire, epidemics or storms. [787]

To the peasant's mind, diseases are of threefold cause: demons, natural forces, or the magic transfer of diseases from others. 753 755